# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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SEARS HOLDINGS CORPORATION, et al.,

Debtors.1

Chapter 11

Case No. 18-23538 (RDD)

(Jointly Administered)

#### ORDER ON MOTION FOR AN ORDER ESTABLISHING STREAMLINED PROCEDURES GOVERNING ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS WITH TOTAL IN CONTROVERSY GREATER THAN \$500,000 BROUGHT BY THE DEBTORS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 502, 547,548 AND 550 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

Upon the Fifth Motion for Orders Establishing Streamlined Procedures Governing Adversary Proceedings Brought by the Debtors Pursuant to Sections 502, 547, 548 and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code, by notice of presentment dated July 17, 2020 (the "Motion"),<sup>2</sup> filed by Sears Holdings Corporation and its debtor affiliates, as debtors and debtors in possession in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases (collectively, the "Debtors" or "Plaintiff") by and through their undersigned counsel, for entry of, among other things, a procedures order (the "Procedures")

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are as follows: Sears Holdings Corporation (0798); Kmart Holding Corporation (3116); Kmart Operations LLC (6546); Sears Operations LLC (4331); Sears, Roebuck and Co. (0680); ServiceLive Inc. (6774); SHC Licensed Business LLC (3718); A&E Factory Service, LLC (6695); A&E Home Delivery, LLC (0205); A&E Lawn & Garden, LLC (5028); A&E Signature Service, LLC (0204); FBA Holdings Inc. (6537); Innovel Solutions, Inc. (7180); Kmart Corporation (9500); MaxServ, Inc. (7626); Private Brands, Ltd. (4022); Sears Development Co. (6028); Sears Holdings Management Corporation (2148); Sears Home & Business Franchises, Inc. (6742); Sears Home Improvement Products, Inc. (8591); Sears Insurance Services, L.L.C. (7182); Sears Procurement Services, Inc. (2859); Sears Protection Company (1250); Sears Protection Company (PR) Inc. (4861); Sears Roebuck Acceptance Corp. (0535); Sears, Roebuck de Puerto Rico, Inc. (3626); SYW Relay LLC (1870); Wally Labs LLC (None); SHC Promotions LLC (9626); Big Beaver of Florida Development, LLC (None); California Builder Appliances, Inc. (6327); Florida Builder Appliances, Inc. (9133); KBL Holding Inc. (1295); KLC, Inc. (0839); Kmart of Michigan, Inc. (1696); Kmart of Washington LLC (8898); Kmart Stores of Illinois LLC (8897); Kmart Stores of Texas LLC (8915); MyGofer LLC (5531); Sears Brands Business Unit Corporation (4658); Sears Holdings Publishing Company, LLC. (5554); Sears Protection Company (Florida), L.L.C. (4239); SHC Desert Springs, LLC (None); SOE, Inc. (9616); StarWest, LLC (5379); STI Merchandising, Inc. (0188); Troy Coolidge No. 13, LLC (None); BlueLight.com, Inc. (7034); Sears Brands, L.L.C. (4664); Sears Buying Services, Inc. (6533); Kmart.com LLC (9022); Sears Brands Management Corporation (5365); and SRe Holding Corporation (4816). The location of the Debtors' corporate headquarters is 3333 Beverly Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60179.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the same meaning ascribed to them as in the Motion.

**Order**") establishing streamlined procedures governing adversary proceedings with total transfers greater than \$500,000 brought by the Debtors pursuant to Sections 502, 547, 548, and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code identified in **Exhibit 1** hereto (each an "Avoidance Action," collectively, the "Avoidance Actions"); and the Court having jurisdiction to consider and determine the Motion as a core proceeding in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(a)-(b) and 1334(b) and the Amended Standing Order of Reference M-431, dated January 31, 2012 (Preska, C.J.); and venue being proper before the Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and proper notice of the Motion and the opportunity for a hearing thereon having been provided in accordance with the Amended Order Implementing Certain Notice and Case Management Procedures, dated November 1, 2018 (D.I. No. 405), including, as represented by counsel for the Debtors, the parties to the Avoidance Actions; and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and there being no objections to the Motion; and the Court having determined that no hearing on the Motion is required; and, after due deliberation, the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion establish good and sufficient cause for the relief granted herein and that such relief is in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, their creditors and all parties in interest in that it will facilitate the prompt, economical and fair determination and resolution of the Avoidance Actions; now, therefore,

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Motion granted as provided herein.
- 2. All parties to the Avoidance Actions shall be governed by the procedures attached hereto as **Exhibit 2** (the "**Avoidance Action Procedures**") and incorporated herein by reference, which Avoidance Action Procedures are hereby approved and shall govern the Avoidance Actions, effective as of the date of this Order.

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- 3. The time periods set forth in this Order and the Avoidance Action Procedures shall be calculated in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a).
- 4. The Court retains jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation of this Order.
  - 5. This Order shall be effective immediately upon its entry.

Dated: August 17, 2020 White Plains, New York

/s/Robert D. Drain

THE HONORABLE ROBERT D. DRAIN UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

# Exhibit 1

## **CASE LIST**

Defendant Name	Adversary Number
A&A (H.K.) Industrial Limited	20-06366
A.D. Sutton & Sons, Inc. fdba Pacesetter Imports, Inc.	20-06301
American President Lines	20-06429
AT&T Inc.	20-06304
Auxo International Ltd.	20-06369
Beijing Industrial Development Co. Ltd.	20-06371
Best Paramount International Ltd.	20-06372
California Cartage Company LLC	20-06435
Cosmo Lighting Inc.	20-06375
Dan Dee International Ltd.	20-06378
Design International Group Inc.	20-06467
Dorel Home Furnishings, Inc. fdba Ameriwood Industries Inc.	20-06381
Dorel Juvenile Group, Inc.	20-06382
DPI Inc.	20-06469
Duke Realty LP	20-06440
Eastern Prime Textile Limited	20-06470
Garden & Lights Company Limited	20-06384
General Lion Footwear (Int'l) Ltd.	20-06385
Hang Fung Garment Group Ltd.	20-06471
Harvest Star International Ltd.	20-06387
Hong Kong GreatStar International Company Limited	20-06388
HongKong Best Source Group Ltd.	20-06322
Hsm (Far East) Co Limited	20-06472
J & V International Limited	20-06389
Jordache Limited	20-06449
Jupiter Workshops (HK) Ltd.	20-06390
KAI Ning Leather Products Co. Ltd.	20-06391
LIC Limited	20-06329
Lotus Onda Industrial Co. Ltd.	20-06393
Micronesian Brokers Inc.	20-06331
Nanjing Sanic Trading Co., Ltd.	20-06395
Nano Star Ventures Limited	20-06396
Ningbo Jade International Co. Ltd.	20-06397

One To One Garment Mfg., Ltd.	20-06398
One World Technologies, Inc.	20-06399
Pacific Cycle Inc. fdba Protective Technologies International Sports	
LLC	20-06400
Paco China Garment Ltd.	20-06334
Pepsico, Inc. fdba Pepsi Cola Company	20-06335
Royal Appliance Mfg. Co. dba TTI Floor Care North America fdba	
Floorcare Direct	20-06403
SAMD Limited	20-06404
Shanghai Giston Garment Company Co., Ltd.	20-06407
Shanghai Wei Zhong Yuan International Trade Co. Ltd.	20-06408
Shi Yi Footwear Mfg. Factory	20-06477
South Pacific Fashions Ltd.	20-06478
Stig Jiangsu Light & Textile Import & Export Co. Ltd.	20-06346
Suzhou Newlook Import and Export Co. Ltd.	20-06413
Swift Transportation Services, LLC	20-06414
Tanya Creations, LLC	20-06350
Thanh Cong Textile Garment Investment Trading JSC	20-06417
Three Stars Fashion	20-06418
TJ Tianxing Kesheng Lthr. Prod. Co. Ltd.	20-06479
Torin Inc.	20-06355
Trend Hive Partners (China) Ltd.	20-06419
Trident Limited	20-06420
Van Dale Industries, Inc.	20-06421
Wing Hing Shoes Factory Ltd.	20-06423
Winning Resources Limited	20-06480
YAT Electrical Appliance Company dba Zhejiang YAT Electrical	
Appliance Co. Ltd.	20-06364
Yongkang Dacheng Ind & Trade Co. Ltd.	20-06482

<sup>\* 49</sup> Adversary Proceedings

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#### Exhibit 2

#### AVOIDANCE ACTION PROCEDURES

#### A. Effectiveness of the Procedures Order

- 1. This Procedures Order approving the procedures Motion shall apply to all Defendants in the Avoidance Actions listed on **Exhibit 1** attached hereto. To the extent a Party is a Defendant in an Avoidance Action subject to this Procedures Order governing cases greater than \$500,000, and is also a defendant in a separate adversary proceeding governed by the procedures order covering those cases with an amount in controversy less than or equal to \$500,000, the Parties shall meet and confer to decide whether the actions should proceed under one procedures order or the other. If an agreement cannot be made, the parties may apply to the Court for resolution.
- 2. The Procedures Order will not alter, affect or modify the rights of Defendants to seek a jury trial in or withdrawal of the reference of, Avoidance Actions or otherwise to move for a determination on whether the Court has authority to enter a final judgment, or issue proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, in an Avoidance Action under 28 U.S.C. § 157, and all such rights shall be preserved unless otherwise agreed to in a responsive pleading consistent with the Bankruptcy Rules and Local Bankruptcy Rules.

#### B. Extensions to Answer or File Other Responsive Pleading to the Complaint

3. The time to file an answer or other responsive pleading to a complaint filed in an Avoidance Action shall be extended by 60 days such that an answer or other responsive pleading is due within 90 days after the issuance of the summons.

#### C. Waiver of Requirement to Conduct Pretrial Conference

4. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16, made applicable to the Avoidance Actions pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7016 (*i.e.*, pretrial conferences), is hereby waived and not applicable with respect to the Avoidance Actions. Neither the Plaintiff nor any Defendant shall be required to appear at any initial pretrial conference, including any initial pretrial conference originally scheduled pursuant to Local Rule 7016-2.

#### D. Waiver of Requirement to Conduct Scheduling Conference

5. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f), made applicable to the Avoidance Actions pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7026 (mandatory meeting before scheduling conference/discovery plan), is hereby waived and is not applicable to the Avoidance Actions. Thus, the parties to the Avoidance Actions shall not be required to submit a written report as may otherwise be required under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f).

#### E. Discovery, Mediation, and Dispositive Motion Schedule

- 6. The disclosures required under Rule 7026(a)(1) (the "**Initial Disclosures**") shall be made on or before November 2, 2020.
- 7. Except as set forth herein, all written interrogatories, document requests and requests for admission, if any, may be served upon the adverse party any time after the service of Initial Disclosures or in conjunction with the service of the Initial Disclosures. All written interrogatories, document requests and requests for admission, if any, must be served upon the adverse party no later than November 2, 2020.
- 8. The parties to the Avoidance Actions shall have through and including January 15, 2021 to complete non-expert fact discovery, excluding depositions of fact witnesses.
- 9. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 33, made applicable herein pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7033, shall apply to the Avoidance Actions, except that responses to interrogatories are due 60 days after service.
- 10. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 34, made applicable herein pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7034, shall apply to the Avoidance Actions except that document production and responses to requests for production are due 60 days after service.
- 11. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 36, made applicable herein pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7036, shall apply to the Avoidance Actions, except that responses to requests for admission are due 60 days after service.
- 12. Unless the parties agree to a broader scope of discovery, absent further order of the Court upon a showing of good cause, discovery will be limited solely and specifically to nonprivileged matters (i) that are properly discoverable under the Bankruptcy Rules and (ii) relate solely to the Avoidance Actions.
- 13. Should a discovery dispute arise, the parties' counsel shall promptly confer to attempt in good faith to resolve the dispute. If, notwithstanding their good faith efforts to do so, they are unable to resolve a discovery dispute, the complainant shall file with the Court and email to the Court's chambers, copying counsel for the opponent, a letter outlining said issues. Respondent must reply within two (2) business days by filing a letter on the docket with a copy emailed to the Court's chambers, copying counsel for the opponent. Such letter, excluding exhibits, shall be no longer than two (2) pages. The Court shall then inform the parties if it will require a conference call or formal motion. At any ensuing conference or hearing on a motion, the Court will ask the parties about their prior efforts to resolve the dispute.
- 14. Any open Avoidance Actions that have not been resolved and/or settled by January 29, 2021 (the "**Remaining Avoidance Actions**"), shall be referred to mandatory mediation and the Mediation Process in paragraphs 15-25. Upon mutual agreement

- of the parties to any Avoidance Action, mediation may be conducted prior to January 29, 2021. Should the parties to an Avoidance Action mutually agree to conduct the mediation earlier, any discovery deadlines pending shall be stayed until the Mediation Process has concluded.
- 15. Between February 1, 2021 and February 15, 2021, Defendants in the Remaining Avoidance Actions shall choose a mediator from the list of proposed mediators (each a "Mediator," collectively, the "Mediators") (the "Mediator List") attached hereto as Exhibit 3. Concurrently, Defendants in the Remaining Avoidance Actions shall notify Plaintiff's counsel of the Defendant's choice of Mediator by contacting: (i) if Plaintiff is represented by ASK LLP, Laurie N. Miskowiec, in writing, via email at lmiskowiec@askllp.com or via letter correspondence addressed to ASK LLP, 2600 Eagan Woods Drive, Suite 400, St. Paul, MN 55121, or (ii) if Plaintiff is represented by Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP ("Katten"), Carl Lawrence, in writing, via email at carl.lawrence@katten.com or via letter correspondence addressed to Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, 575 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022. If a Defendant in a Remaining Avoidance Action does not timely choose a Mediator from the Mediator List and notify Plaintiff's counsel of the same, Plaintiff will assign such Remaining Avoidance Action to one of the Mediators from the Mediator List.
- 16. Upon notification of such selection or assignment, the selected Mediator shall have an opportunity to determine whether he/she has any conflicts with the Defendant(s) and, in the event of a conflict, may abstain from acting in the particular mediation. If the selected Mediator abstains, Defendant will be given another 15 days to select an alternate Mediator as described in paragraph 15 above.
- 17. Upon the selection of Mediators, Plaintiff, working with the Mediators, will commence scheduling mediations. Each Mediator will provide to Plaintiff the dates on which the Mediator is available for mediation and the parties shall cooperate with the Mediators and each other regarding the scheduling of mediations. Plaintiff's counsel shall contact Defendant or Defendant's counsel with a list of proposed dates for mediation provided by the Mediator. Mediation will then be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.
- 18. Plaintiff will give at least 21 days' written notice of the first date, time and place of the mediation in each Remaining Avoidance Action (the "**Mediation Notice**"), which notice shall be served on the applicable Defendant.
- 19. Within 7 calendar days after the conclusion of the mediation, the Mediator shall file a report (the "Mediator's Report") pursuant to General Order M-452 in the Remaining Avoidance Action, which shall be limited to stating only a) compliance or non-compliance with the General Order and b) whether the Remaining Avoidance Action settled or did not settle.
- 20. The Mediation Process with respect to all of the Remaining Avoidance Actions must be concluded by August 31, 2021.

- 21. Should mediation fail to resolve a Remaining Avoidance Action, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2), made applicable herein pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7026, disclosures and reports (a) concerning any issue on which a party bears the burden of proof (not including any report by Plaintiff on insolvency) and (b) if Defendant intends to provide expert testimony regarding insolvency of the Debtors, such report, if any, shall be made to the to the adverse party within 30 days after the Mediator's Report is filed.
- 22. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(a)(2), made applicable herein pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7026, disclosures and reports (a) of the parties' rebuttal experts, and (b) Plaintiff's report on the insolvency of the Debtors, if any, shall be made to the adverse party within 60 days after the Mediator's Report is filed.
- 23. All fact and expert discovery, including fact and expert witness depositions, shall be concluded the earlier of 120 days after the Mediator's Report is filed or on December 31, 2021.
- 24. The standard provisions of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(e), made applicable herein pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 7026, shall apply to the Avoidance Actions with respect to supplementation of discovery responses.
- 25. Either or both parties may seek leave under Local Bankruptcy Rule 7056 by email to the Court, with a copy to the counsel for the opposing party; provided, that all dispositive motions shall be filed and served at any time after the Mediation Process but before January 31, 2022. In the normal course, the Court will not permit the filing and pursuit of a summary judgment motion before the completion of discovery. Notwithstanding Local Bankruptcy Rule 7005-1, the party filing or opposing such dispositive motion shall be allowed to introduce such exhibits as needed to meet its burden of proof or rebut such burden.

#### F. Mediation Procedures and Requirements

- 26. Mediations shall take place in New York, New York, except as otherwise agreed to by the parties and the Mediator. Mediations shall be held at the law office of the Debtors' counsel, the Mediator's office, or at another location agreed upon by the Mediator; provided, that, notwithstanding any other provision hereof, at the direction of the Mediator, any or all of the Mediation may be conducted telephonically or via a video conferencing service. Local Bankruptcy Rule 9019-1 and the Court's General Order M-452 concerning mediation procedures shall govern the mediations, except as otherwise set forth herein. General Order M-452 is available on the Court's website at: http://www.nysb.uscourts.gov/.
- 27. All proceedings and writing incident to the mediation will be considered privileged and confidential and subject to all the protections of Federal Rule of Evidence 408, and shall not be reported or admitted in evidence for any reason except to prove that a party failed to comply with the Mediation Process set forth in these Procedures.

- 28. The Mediators shall be required to file disclosures prior to the scheduling of mediation.
- 29. The parties in each Remaining Avoidance Action will participate in the mediation, as scheduled and presided over by the chosen Mediator, in good faith and with a view toward reaching a consensual resolution. The mediation shall be attended in person by a representative of the Defendant with full settlement authority (and if a Defendant is represented by counsel, their counsel) as well as counsel for the Debtor (who must have settlement authority from the Debtors, or a Debtor representative shall appear as well), except that: (1) a Mediator, in his or her discretion, may allow a party representative to appear telephonically or via video or, (2) the parties may consent to a party representative appearing telephonically or via video. Any such request must be made prior to ten (10) business days before the scheduled mediation date, or Defendant is deemed to waive such **request.** Should a party representative appear by telephone or via video, counsel appearing in person for that party shall have full settlement authority. To the extent a Mediator grants a party's request to appear telephonically, the requesting party is responsible for arranging for and paying any fees associated with teleconference services. Should a dispute arise regarding a Mediator's decision on whether to allow a party representative to appear telephonically or via video rather than in person, a party may apply by email to the Court, in advance of the mediation, by sending a letter outlining said issues to chambers. The Court may then schedule a conference call to address the issues.
- 30. The Mediator will preside over the mediation with full authority to determine the nature and order of the parties' presentations, and the rules of evidence will not apply. Each Mediator may implement additional procedures which are reasonable and practical under the circumstances.
- 31. The Mediator, in the Mediation Notice (by language provided to Plaintiff by the Mediator) or in a separate notice that need not be filed, may require the parties to provide to the Mediator any relevant papers and exhibits, a statement of position, and a settlement proposal. In the Mediator's discretion, upon notice (which need not be filed), the Mediator may adjourn a mediation or move a mediation to a different location within the same jurisdiction. The Mediator may also continue a mediation that has been commenced if the Mediator determines that a continuation is in the best interest of the parties.
- 32. The parties must participate in the scheduling of mediation and mediate in good faith. If the mediator feels that a party to the mediation is not attempting to schedule or resolve the mediation in good faith, the mediator may file a report with the Court. The Court may, without need for further motion by any party, schedule a hearing. If the Court determines that the party is not cooperating in good faith with the mediation procedures, the Court may consider the imposition of sanctions. Additionally, if either party to the mediation is not attempting to schedule or resolve the mediation in good faith, the opposite party may file a motion for sanctions with the Court. Litigation with respect to the issuance of sanctions shall not delay the

- commencement of the mediation. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, attorney's fees and costs and fees of the Mediator.
- 33. Upon notice and a hearing, a party's failure to appear at the mediation or otherwise comply with the Procedures Order with respect to mediation, may result in a default judgment or dismissal being obtained against the party failing to comply with the mediation provisions. The Mediator shall promptly file with the Court a notice when any party fails to comply with the mediation provisions set forth in the Procedures Order.
- 34. The fees and costs of the Mediator (the "Mediation Fee") shall be paid equally by the parties on a fixed-fee schedule as set forth below. The parties shall pay one-fourth of the Mediation Fee as least seven (7) calendar days prior to the commencement of mediation (the "Initial Mediation Fee"). The remaining fee will be paid by the parties on the date of mediation, should the mediation go forward. If the parties settle prior to the mediation, the Mediator must be informed of the settlement prior to seven calendar days before the scheduled mediation or the Initial Mediation Fee is nonrefundable:
  - i. cases with a claim amount (as reflected in the complaint) of less than \$100,000: \$3,000.00 per case;
  - ii. cases with a claim amount (as reflected in the complaint) equal to or greater than \$100,000 and less than \$250,000: \$4,000 per case; and
  - iii. cases with a claim amount (as reflected in the complaint) equal to or greater than \$250,000 and less than \$1,000,000: \$5,000 per case.
  - iv. cases with a claim amount (as reflected in the complaint) equal to or greater than \$1,000,000 and less than \$5,000,000: \$6,000.00 per case;
  - v. cases with a claim amount (as reflected in the complaint) equal to or greater than \$5,000,000: \$7,000 per case.
- 35. Mediation that is continued for more than one calendar day will be continued on an hourly fee basis to be paid equally by the parties.
- 36. Defendants that have additional Avoidance Actions commenced against their affiliates in the Debtors' bankruptcy cases may mediate all related Avoidance Actions at one time and, in such event, the Mediation Fee shall be based upon the combined total claim amount for all related Avoidance Actions.
- 37. Mediation statements shall be delivered to the Mediator 7 calendar days prior to the mediation. Unless otherwise directed by the Mediator, the mediation statements shall be shared with the opposing party, except that any party that has confidential information may share such confidential information solely with the Mediator. The Mediator will direct the parties as to further instructions regarding the mediation statements.

- 38. Without the prior consent of both parties, no Mediator shall mediate a case in which he/she or his/her law firm represents a party. If a Mediator's law firm represents any Defendant in the Avoidance Actions, then: (a) the Mediator shall not personally participate in the representation of that Defendant; (b) the law firm shall notate the file to indicate that the Mediator shall have no access to it; and (c) any discussions concerning the particular Avoidance Action by employees of the law firm shall exclude the Mediator. The Mediator's participation in mediation pursuant to the Procedures Order shall not create a conflict of interest with respect to the representation of such Defendants by the Mediator's law firm.
- 39. No Mediator shall be called as a witness by any party except as set forth in this paragraph. No party shall attempt to compel the testimony of, or compel the production of documents from, the Mediators or the agents, partners or employees of their respective law firms. Neither the Mediators nor their respective agents, partners, law firms or employees (a) are necessary parties in any proceeding relating to the mediation or the subject matter of the mediation, nor (b) shall be liable to any party for any act or omission in connection with any mediation conducted under the Procedures Order. Any documents provided to the Mediator by the parties shall be destroyed 30 days after the filing of the Mediator's Report unless the Mediator is otherwise ordered by the Court. However, subject to court order, a Mediator may be called as witness by any party and may be compelled to testify on a limited basis in proceedings where it is alleged that a party failed to comply with mediation procedures as required in the foregoing paragraphs of this Procedures Order.
- 40. All proceedings and writings incidental to the mediation shall be privileged and confidential, and shall not be reported or placed in evidence.

#### G. Miscellaneous

- 41. If, after dispositive motions have been filed in an Avoidance Action and a decision on the same does not resolve the matter, that Avoidance Action shall be scheduled for a trial date that is convenient to the Court's calendar. Parties should be ready to proceed to trial within three weeks after such decision is rendered. Before seeking such trial date, the parties shall have met and conferred and agreed on their best estimate of the length of the trial, taking into account the procedures set forth below. When seeking such date, they shall inform the Court's Courtroom Deputy of such estimate. Normally, the Court expects that Avoidance Action trials will not take longer than one day. If the parties believe otherwise, they should arrange a pretrial conference before scheduling the trial.
- 42. On or before two weeks before the trial, the parties shall have (a) met and conferred and used their best efforts to agree on a joint agreed exhibit book and shall have identified any exhibits whose admissibility is not agreed and (b) exchanged proposed witness lists.
- 43. On or before one week before the scheduled trial date, the parties shall (a) submit to chambers (in hard copy) declarations under penalty of perjury or affidavits of

- their direct witnesses, who shall be present at trial for cross-examination and redirect, or have previously sought (by email to the Court's chambers, with a copy to counsel for the opposing party) the Court's permission to examine direct witnesses at trial and (b) submit the joint exhibit book referred to in paragraph 44.
- 44. The Local Bankruptcy Rules shall apply, except that this Procedures Order shall control with respect to the Avoidance Actions to the extent of any conflict with the Local Rules or other applicable rules and orders of the Court.
- 45. The deadlines and/or provisions contained in this Procedures Order may be extended and/or modified by the Court upon written motion and for good cause shown or consent of the parties pursuant to stipulation, which stipulation (a) if solely related to an extension of time for Defendant to file a response to the complaint, must be filed with the Court, and (b) in all other deadline extensions, must be filed with the Court, with a copy emailed to the Court's chambers and "So Ordered."
- 46. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE PROCEDURES MAY RESULT IN DISMISSAL OR OTHER SANCTION. If delay or other act or omission of your adversary may result in a sanction against you, it is incumbent on you to promptly bring this matter to the Court for relief.

## Exhibit 3

## **MEDIATOR LIST**

- David Banker
   Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads LLP
- 2. Christopher Battaglia Halperin Battaglia Benzija, LLP
- 3. Mark Felger Cozen O'Connor P.C.
- 4. Eric Haber Law Office of Eric Haber, PLLC
- 5. Jorian Rose BakerHostetler
- 6. Sean Southard Klestadt Winters Jureller Southard & Stevens, LLP